SSB 5676 - H COMM AMD ADOPTED 4/11/95

By Committee on Law & Justice

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- 5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the 6 following:
- 7 "Sec. 1. RCW 26.09.191 and 1994 c 267 s 1 are each amended to read 8 as follows:
- 9 (1) The permanent parenting plan shall not require mutual decisionmaking or designation of a dispute resolution process other than court 10 action if it is found that a parent has engaged in any of the following 11 12 conduct: (a) Willful abandonment that continues for an extended period 13 of time or substantial refusal to perform parenting functions; (b) physical, sexual, or a pattern of emotional abuse of a child; or (c) a 14 history of acts of domestic violence as defined in RCW 26.50.010(1) or 15 16 an assault or sexual assault which causes grievous bodily harm or the 17 fear of such harm.
- (2)(a) The parent's residential time with the child shall be 18 19 limited if it is found that the parent has engaged in any of the 20 following conduct: (i) Willful abandonment that continues for an 21 extended period of time or substantial refusal to perform parenting 22 functions; (ii) physical, sexual, or a pattern of emotional abuse of a 23 child; or (iii) a history of acts of domestic violence as defined in RCW 26.50.010(1) or an assault or sexual assault which causes grievous 24 bodily harm or the fear of such harm. The parent's residential time 25 with the child shall be limited if the parent has been convicted as an 26 27 adult of a sex offense under RCW 9A.64.020 or chapter 9.68A or 9A.44 This subsection shall not apply when (c) of this subsection 28 RCW. 29 applies.
- 30 (b) The parent's residential time with the child shall be limited if it is found that the parent resides with a person who has engaged in any of the following conduct: (i) Physical, sexual, or a pattern of emotional abuse of a child; or (ii) a history of acts of domestic violence as defined in RCW 26.50.010(1) or an assault or sexual assault that causes grievous bodily harm or the fear of such harm. If a parent resides with a person who as an adult has been convicted or as a

- juvenile has been adjudicated, or with a juvenile who has been adjudicated, of a sex offense under RCW 9A.64.020 or chapter 9.68A or 9A.44 RCW, the court shall restrain the parent from contact with the parent's child except contact that occurs outside that person's presence. This subsection (2)(b) shall not apply when (c) of this subsection applies.
- (c) If a parent has been ((convicted as an adult of a sexual offense under RCW 9A.64.020 or chapter 9.68A or 9A.44 RCW, or has been)) found to be a sexual predator under chapter 71.09 RCW, the court shall restrain the parent from contact with a child that would otherwise be allowed under this chapter. If a parent resides with an adult or juvenile who has been ((convicted, or with a juvenile who has been adjudicated, of a sexual offense under RCW 9A.64.020 or chapter 9.68A or 9A.44 RCW, or who has been)) found to be a sexual predator under chapter 71.09 RCW, the court shall restrain the parent from contact with the parent's child except contact that occurs outside that person's presence.
 - (d)(i) The limitations imposed by the court under (a) or (b) of this subsection shall be reasonably calculated to protect the child from physical, sexual, or emotional abuse or harm that could result if the child has contact with the parent requesting residential time. If the court expressly finds based on the evidence that limitation on the residential time with the child will not adequately protect the child from the harm or abuse that could result if the child has contact with the parent requesting residential time, the court shall restrain the parent requesting residential time from all contact with the child.

(ii) The court shall not enter an order under (a) of this subsection allowing a parent to have contact with a child if the parent has been found by clear and convincing evidence in a civil action or by a preponderance of the evidence in a dependency action to have sexually abused the child, except upon recommendation by an evaluator or therapist for the child that the child is ready for contact with the parent and will not be harmed by the contact. The court shall not enter an order allowing a parent to have contact with the child if the parent resides with a person who has been found by clear and convincing evidence in a civil action or by a preponderance of the evidence in a dependency action to have sexually abused a child, unless the court finds that the parent accepts that the person engaged in the harmful

1 conduct and the parent is willing to and capable of protecting the 2 child from harm from the person.

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- (iii) If the court limits residential time under (a) or (b) of this subsection to require supervised contact between the child and the parent, the court shall not approve of a supervisor for contact between a child and a parent who has engaged in physical, sexual, or a pattern of emotional abuse of the child unless the court finds based upon the evidence that the supervisor accepts that the harmful conduct occurred and is willing to and capable of protecting the child from harm. The court shall revoke court approval of the supervisor upon finding, based on the evidence, that the supervisor has failed to protect the child or is no longer willing to or capable of protecting the child.
- 13 (e) If the court expressly finds based on the evidence that contact between the parent and the child will not cause physical, sexual, or 14 15 emotional abuse or harm to the child and that the probability that the parent's or other person's harmful or abusive conduct will recur is so 16 remote that it would not be in the child's best interests to apply the 17 limitations of (a), (b), and (d) (i) and (iii) of this subsection, or 18 19 if the court expressly finds the parent's conduct did not have an 20 impact on the child, then the court need not apply the limitations of (a), (b), and (d) (i) and (iii) of this subsection. The weight given 21 to the existence of a protection order issued under chapter 26.50 RCW 22 as to domestic violence is within the discretion of the court. 23 24 subsection shall not apply when (c) and (d)(ii) of this subsection 25 apply.
- (3) A parent's involvement or conduct may have an adverse effect on the child's best interests, and the court may preclude or limit any provisions of the parenting plan, if any of the following factors exist:
- 30 (a) A parent's neglect or substantial nonperformance of parenting 31 functions;
- 32 (b) A long-term emotional or physical impairment which interferes 33 with the parent's performance of parenting functions as defined in RCW 34 26.09.004;
- 35 (c) A long-term impairment resulting from drug, alcohol, or other 36 substance abuse that interferes with the performance of parenting 37 functions;
- (d) The absence or substantial impairment of emotional ties between the parent and the child;

- 1 (e) The abusive use of conflict by the parent which creates the 2 danger of serious damage to the child's psychological development;
- 3 (f) A parent has withheld from the other parent access to the child 4 for a protracted period without good cause; or
- 5 (g) Such other factors or conduct as the court expressly finds 6 adverse to the best interests of the child.
- 7 (4) In entering a permanent parenting plan, the court shall not 8 draw any presumptions from the provisions of the temporary parenting 9 plan.
- 10 (5) In determining whether any of the conduct described in this 11 section has occurred, the court shall apply the civil rules of 12 evidence, proof, and procedure.
- 13 **Sec. 2.** RCW 26.10.160 and 1994 c 267 s 2 are each amended to read 14 as follows:
- 15 (1) A parent not granted custody of the child is entitled to 16 reasonable visitation rights except as provided in subsection (2) of 17 this section.
- 18 (2)(a) Visitation with the child shall be limited if it is found 19 that the parent seeking visitation has engaged in any of the following conduct: (i) Willful abandonment that continues for an extended period 20 of time or substantial refusal to perform parenting functions; (ii) 21 physical, sexual, or a pattern of emotional abuse of a child; or (iii) 22 23 a history of acts of domestic violence as defined in RCW 26.50.010(1) 24 or an assault or sexual assault which causes grievous bodily harm or 25 the fear of such harm. The parent's visitation with the child shall be limited if the parent has been convicted as an adult of a sex offense 26 under RCW 9A.64.020 or chapter 9.68A or 9A.44 RCW. This subsection 27 shall not apply when (c) of this subsection applies. 28
- 29 (b) The parent's ((residential time)) visitation with the child 30 shall be limited if it is found that the parent resides with a person who has engaged in any of the following conduct: (i) Physical, sexual, 31 or a pattern of emotional abuse of a child; or (ii) a history of acts 32 of domestic violence as defined in RCW 26.50.010(1) or an assault or 33 34 sexual assault which causes grievous bodily harm or the fear of such If a parent resides with a person who as an adult has been 35 harm. 36 convicted or as a juvenile has been adjudicated, or with a juvenile who has been adjudicated, of a sex offense under RCW 9A.64.020 or chapter 37 38 9.68A or 9A.44 RCW, the court shall restrain the parent from contact

with the parent's child except contact that occurs outside that person's presence. This subsection (2)(b) shall not apply when (c) of this subsection applies.

(c) If a parent has been ((convicted as an adult of a sexual offense under RCW 9A.64.020 or chapter 9.68A or 9A.44 RCW, or has been)) found to be a sexual predator under chapter 71.09 RCW, the court shall restrain the parent from contact with a child that would otherwise be allowed under this chapter. If a parent resides with an adult or juvenile who has been ((convicted, or with a juvenile who has been adjudicated, of a sexual offense under RCW 9A.64.020 or chapter 9.68A or 9A.44 RCW, or who has been)) found to be a sexual predator under chapter 71.09 RCW, the court shall restrain the parent from contact with the parent's child except contact that occurs outside that person's presence.

(d)(i) The limitations imposed by the court under (a) or (b) of this subsection shall be reasonably calculated to protect the child from the physical, sexual, or emotional abuse or harm that could result if the child has contact with the parent requesting visitation. If the court expressly finds based on the evidence that limitations on visitation with the child will not adequately protect the child from the harm or abuse that could result if the child has contact with the parent requesting visitation, the court shall restrain the person seeking visitation from all contact with the child.

(ii) The court shall not enter an order under (a) of this subsection allowing a parent to have contact with a child if the parent has been found by clear and convincing evidence in a civil action or by a preponderance of the evidence in a dependency action to have sexually abused the child, except upon recommendation by an evaluator or therapist for the child that the child is ready for contact with the parent and will not be harmed by the contact. The court shall not enter an order allowing a parent to have contact with the child if the parent resides with a person who has been found by clear and convincing evidence in a civil action or by a preponderance of the evidence in a dependency action to have sexually abused a child, unless the court finds that the parent accepts that the person engaged in the harmful conduct and the parent is willing to and capable of protecting the child from harm from the person.

(iii) If the court limits ((residential time)) visitation under (a) or (b) of this subsection to require supervised contact between the

- child and the parent, the court shall not approve of a supervisor for 1 contact between a child and a parent who has engaged in physical, 2 sexual, or a pattern of emotional abuse of the child unless the court 3 4 finds based upon the evidence that the supervisor accepts that the harmful conduct occurred and is willing to and capable of protecting 5 The court shall revoke court approval of the the child from harm. 6 7 supervisor upon finding, based on the evidence, that the supervisor has 8 failed to protect the child or is no longer willing to or capable of 9 protecting the child.
- 10 (e) If the court expressly finds based on the evidence that contact between the parent and the child will not cause physical, sexual, or 11 emotional abuse or harm to the child and that the probability that the 12 parent's or other person's harmful or abusive conduct will recur is so 13 remote that it would not be in the child's best interests to apply the 14 15 limitations of (a), (b), and (d) (i) and (iii) of this subsection, or if the court expressly finds based on the evidence that the parent's 16 conduct did not have an impact on the child, then the court need not 17 apply the limitations of (a), (b), and (d) (i) and (iii) of this 18 19 subsection. The weight given to the existence of a protection order issued under chapter 26.50 RCW as to domestic violence is within the 20 discretion of the court. This subsection shall not apply when (c) and 21 (d)(ii) of this subsection apply. 22
- 23 (3) Any person may petition the court for visitation rights at any 24 time including, but not limited to, custody proceedings. The court may 25 order visitation rights for any person when visitation may serve the 26 best interest of the child whether or not there has been any change of 27 circumstances.
- 28 (4) The court may modify an order granting or denying visitation 29 rights whenever modification would serve the best interests of the 30 child. Modification of a parent's visitation rights shall be subject 31 to the requirements of subsection (2) of this section."

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On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "parents;" strike the remainder of the title and insert "and amending RCW 26.09.191 and 26.10.160."

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